



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Former Immigration Inspector Sentenced to Probation

TUCSON, ARIZONA -- The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona, announced today that James Wesley Wimmer, 41, of Nogales, Arizona was sentenced to three years of probation by United States District Judge Frank R. Zapata in Tucson, Arizona.

Wimmer was sentenced on March 15, 2002, for production of a false identification document in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1028. According to his plea agreement, Wimmer, a United States Immigration Inspector at the time of the offense on January 23, 1998, processed the paperwork for an INS Border Crosser Card in the name of Raymundo De La Cruz-Haros. The person using that name actually was a convicted drug trafficker who had been deported from the United States, Miguel Angel Sosa-Rodriguez. Wimmer never met with Sosa-Rodriguez, despite his duties as an Immigration Inspector, which required him personally to meet and verify eligibility of applicants for Border Crosser Cards. Sosa-Rodriguez is currently imprisoned on charges involving drug trafficking, money laundering, and re-entering the United States after having been deported.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

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The prosecution was handled by Joseph E. Koehler, Assistant United States Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona.

CASE NUMBER: CR-01-862 TUC FRZ
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